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OCTOBER 1.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-nine persons present.

The death of Thomas Potter, Sr., a member, was announced.

Foraminiferous Shells of our Coast.—Prof. LEIDY remarked that the vast numbers of Foraminiferous shells, which formed a constituent of the sea-side sands, had been a subject of frequent notice. Feeling interested to know their proportionate quantity on the comparatively barren shore of New Jersey, he had examined the sand at Atlantic City, and at Cape May. The sand in these localities mainly consists of quartz, with black grains, often in considerable quantity, and formerly largely collected for "writing sand," which he supposed to consist of ilmenite and magnetite. Among these were also brilliant red particles, which he supposed to be garnet. All these materials are the comparatively insoluble residue of our inland gneissic, and other rocks.

In sand scraped up from the surface between the tides at Atlantic City, he had found the Foraminiferous shells, all of one species of *Nonionina*, resembling that figured by Ehrenberg as *N. polypora.* They were found in the proportion of about 19,000 to the ounce avoirdupois of sand. In sand, obtained in the same manner at Cape May, there were about 38,000 shells, of the single species just named, to the ounce avoirdupois of sand.

The sands on the rocky New England coast are much richer in Foraminiferous shells, both in numbers and kinds, but they are generally smaller. In sand from the bathing beach at Newport, R. I., collected from the white lines left by the edge of the waves, there were 280,000 shells to the ounce of sand.

OCTOBER 8.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Fifty persons present.

On Crustaceans at Cape May, N. J.—Prof. LEIDY remarked that, in a recent visit to Cape May, N. J., he had been struck with the immense numbers of the Mole Crab, *Hippa talpoidea*, which inhabited the beach between tides. They were especially abundant above the village of Ocean Grove, but were also numerous below this point, down as far as the light-house. They were generally young, and not larger than the little finger nail. A few